

## ***THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY***

**August 2010 – Week 1**

**Air Date: August 1 – August 7 (Sunday – Saturday)**



### **TITLE: THE HEAVENS MAKE A SPLASH**

AUGUST 1946 AND THE HEAVENS MAKE A SPLASH IN WEST TEXAS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

AUGUST 2, 1946. MARATHON. LUNCHTIME AT THE GAGE RANCH NEAR THE PEÑA BLANCA SPRINGS.

AT ABOUT 1:15, LOCALS HEAR A LOUD SONIC BOOM. TWO RANCHERS EATIN' LUNCH LOOK UP TO SEE SOMETHING PLUMMETING TO EARTH. A NEARBY COOK SAYS IT LOOKS LIKE A BLACK BAG BIG AS A BUCKET.

DRIVING DOWN NEAR THE SWIMMIN' HOLE, TWO RANCHHANDS ARE STARTLED WHEN AN OBJECT STRIKES THE POOL SPLASHING WATER AND MOSS UP ONTO THE TRUCK.

IT'S A RARE 75 MILLION YEAR OLD AUBRITE METEORITE, ONE OF LESS THAN A DOZEN FOUND ON EARTH. THE PEÑA BLANCA SPRINGS METEORITE NOW SITS AT TCU'S MONNIG MUSEUM.

A CHUNK OF HEAVEN FELL INTO A SWIMMING POOL 64 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

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HANDBOOK OF TEXAS – Meteorites

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/MM/szm1.html>

“Pena Blanca Spring” Meteorite Studies website, accessed June 17, 2008.

[http://www.meteoritestudies.com/protected\\_PENA.HTM](http://www.meteoritestudies.com/protected_PENA.HTM)

“The Peña Blanca Spring Meteorite, Brewster County, Texas” John T. Lonsdale, University of Texas, Austin – thesis

[http://www.minsocam.org/ammin/AM32/AM32\\_354.pdf](http://www.minsocam.org/ammin/AM32/AM32_354.pdf)

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